



CERT

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CERT GOES MAJOR LEAGUE!

On April 2, 2005, sports history was made at Comerica Park in Detroit, Michigan. And no – it wasn't a milestone home run, or a great catch. Rather, history was made when 167 staff from Comerica Park, Ford Field, Joe Louis Arena, and The Palace came together as a team and received Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program training.

CERT is an integral part of Citizen Corps, the Department of Homeland Security's grassroots movement to actively involve everyone in making our communities and our nation safer, stronger, and better prepared. We all have role in hometown security and more than 1600 Citizen Corps Councils across the country are working to provide local opportunities for everyone to prepare, train, and volunteer for all hazards and threats.

The CERT program educates citizens about disaster preparedness and provides hands-on training in basic disaster response skills, including fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. Once trained, CERT members can assist themselves, their families, and others in their neighborhood or workplace following a disaster and can take a more active role in supporting first responders.

Detroit's sports arenas will be in the spotlight over the next few years, hosting several high profile events. Comerica Park will be host to the 2005 All Star Game. In 2006, Ford Field will host the 40th Super Bowl. And, in 2008, Ford Field will host the NCAA Final Four. Along with the excitement and

national attention that comes with hosting these high visibility-sporting events, there is also an added set of challenges to focus on, most importantly security and preparedness. The City of Detroit, Detroit Tigers, and Detroit Lion organizations, along with several federal agencies are working together to make sure the best security measures are in place to prevent any type of disaster from impacting the stadiums and the fans during the events.

The City of Detroit, its professional sporting organizations, and the state and local Citizen Corps Councils are working together to ensure that the CERT training is a hit. Michigan Citizen Corps and Detroit Citizen Corps are providing the training, materials, and equipment for this kick-off event. Because the first class is geared toward staff with prior training in first aid and fire safety, the daylong event focused on disaster preparedness, disaster psychology, the incident command system, and weapons of mass destruction. The remaining staff will receive the full, standard 20 hours of CERT training, so that Detroit can provide their fans with an enjoyable – and safe – entertainment experience!

For more on the CERT Sports training in Detroit, contact Gary Zulinski, Program Director Michigan Citizen Corps, at (517) 241-3867 or send him an email at ZulinskiG@Michigan.Gov.

DHS Releases Interim National Preparedness Goal

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security announced on March 31, 2005, the publication of the Interim National Preparedness Goal ("Goal"). The Goal will guide federal departments and agencies; state, territorial, local and tribal officials, the private sector, non-government organizations and the public in determining how to most effectively and efficiently strengthen preparedness for terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies.

"In our complex free society, there is no perfect solution to address every security concern," said Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff.

“But by working together collectively to analyze threats, understand our capabilities, and apply resources intelligently, we can manage risk. The National Preparedness Goal will help us meet this objective.”

The Goal establishes readiness priorities, targets, and metrics. It will enable the Nation to answer three key questions: “How prepared are we?” “How prepared do we need to be?” and “How do we prioritize efforts to close the gap?” The emphasis is on developing appropriate levels of capabilities to address a wide range of terrorist attacks and disaster scenarios.

“The Goal is an overarching statement of strategic intent. It demonstrates our national will to work toward establishing overall readiness against current and future threats,” said Matt Mayer, Acting Executive Director of the Office of State and Local

Government Coordination and Preparedness. “With unlimited resources, full preparedness would be less of a challenge, but we don’t have unlimited resources. We have to make tough choices, they have to be the right choices, and we have to be ready to come together as a single, integrated system when the need arises.”

The Goal includes seven priorities for national preparedness. The priorities fall into two categories: overarching priorities and priorities to build specific capabilities.

The overarching priorities are to:

- Implement the National Incident Management System and National Response Plan
- Expand regional collaboration and
- Implement the Interim National Infrastructure Protection Plan.
- The priorities for specific capabilities are to:
- Strengthen information sharing and collaboration capabilities;
- Strengthen interoperable communications capabilities;
- Strengthen chemical, biological, radiation, nuclear, and explosive weapons (CBRNE); detection, response, and decontamination capabilities; and
- Strengthen medical surge and mass prophylaxis capabilities.

The Goal addresses a requirement of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8, *National Preparedness*, to define “standards for preparedness assessments and strategies, and a system for assessing the Nation’s overall preparedness to respond to major events, especially those involving acts of terrorism.” The directive requires submission of the first annual status report on preparedness to the President by March 31, 2006.

Visit [HSPD-8 and the National Preparedness Goal](#) for more information.

FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR’S DESK BY GARY ZULINSKI

Spring appears to have arrived! Let’s hope it stays for more than a few days this time. For those who ventured to see Opening Day at Comerica Park, it was beautiful weather and the Tigers walloped the Royals 11-2.

Michigan Citizen Corps and CERT had its Opening Day at Comerica Park on April 2, 2005. It was a homerun! Michigan Citizen Corps and Detroit Citizen Corps along with Comerica Park hosted CERT training for the staff of Comerica, Ford Field, Joe Louis Arena, and The Palace. There were also participants from the Theater District and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in attendance.

There were 167 people participated in the daylong training. We heard many positive comments. Executives from Olympia Entertainment and Comerica Park said the training is an added source of security for the venues. Comerica Park is planning to have CERT Volunteers in the stands when the All Star game comes to Detroit in July.

The President Bush’s proposed FY06 budget was presented to Congress on Feb 7th, including \$50 million for Citizen Corps. This is an increase from the \$15 million allocated in FY05. I can’t stress enough how important it is to let your congressional representatives know about your CERT program achievements. They will also be interested in learning about your local emergency management plans. Your congressional representatives and senators are the ones who vote on the funding. Please let them know that funding is important for their district.

You know the importance of this program as well as I do. CERT trained volunteers are invaluable resources in local communities. CERT training also gives participants important skills they can use in their everyday life. With the TEEN CERT program gaining in popularity a whole new generation of prepared citizens will be better to handle the emergencies of the future.

We anticipate that there will be a radical shift in DHS Grant Program for FY06 from formula grants to a results-oriented discretionary funding program. We can expect a reduction of \$220 million or 6.7% from FY05 spending levels. Key priorities will be:

- Support measurable goals for national preparedness.
- Help states and localities meet national preparedness goals in a coordinated and complementary fashion.
- Encourage standardization and interoperability of first responder equipment, especially for communications.
- Help prepare healthcare workers for a mass casualty event.
- Increase the nation's pharmaceutical stockpiles.

In addition, the proposed budget eliminates Equipment and Testing and Metropolitan Medical Response System Program funding. Transportation/Infrastructure, Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention, and Citizen Corps programs are slated for increases, with Citizen Corps having the largest increase.

What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in a fight - it's the size of the fight in the dog.

- Dwight D. Eisenhower 1958

HELPING PETS IN DISASTERS

By Rachel Tardiff, Humane Society of the U.S.

In the light of recent hurricanes, tsunamis, and other disasters, the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has brought to the forefront the caring for pets during and following disasters. The HSUS has worked to educate the public about how to prepare for the safety of their pets during disasters, and has been able to serve as a resource to aid states and local communities when disasters occur.

The HSUS has created Disaster Animal Response Teams (DARTs), comprised of specially trained volunteers who assess the impact of the disaster on animals in the area, and provide support to the communities through a variety of means. The HSUS has personnel ready to assist at a moment's notice, and can deploy their "Code 3" truck, a mobile command vehicle that can provide veterinary services, rescue equipment, and temporary animal shelter equipment. In an effort to rescue, save, and treat as many animals as possible, DARTs have been deployed to many areas, including the Southeastern states after the hurricanes, the Arizona wildfires, and Midwest tornados. The HSUS DARTs support local and state animal response plans. The HSUS can coordinate response efforts, including emergency sheltering, animal rescues, animal supply distribution, and temporary staff for overburdened local facilities. The HSUS resources and teams may also aid in reuniting owners with their pets, and in the placement of pets that have been rescued but not rejoined with their owners – all in an effort to save and protect precious pets of various species.

The HSUS works closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the American Red Cross to allow the HSUS to participate in disaster relief operations, taking the lead role in care of animals before, during, and after disasters. The HSUS educates communities and aids in the creation of their animal disaster protection, mitigation, and response programs. The HSUS, FEMA, and the American Red Cross all provide information to the public on preparation of individuals and their pets in times of disasters, actual or threatened. Additionally, the HSUS can step in during disasters when local and state animal response teams cannot handle the magnitude of the response needed. The HSUS's planning and support efforts have clearly made a difference in the effective animal care, response, and placement (with owners or foster owners) during and following disasters. The HSUS has a tremendous amount of resources available to individuals, local emergency managers, state emergency managers and national emergency response organizations for disaster care and recovery of animals. More information on these preparation and response programs can be found on the following websites:

- Humane Society of the United States (HSUS): www.hsus.org

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): www.fema.gov
- AMERICAN RED CROSS: www.redcross.org

NEW ESTIMATE FOR VALUE OF VOLUNTEER TIME

INDEPENDENT SECTOR announces that the 2004 estimate for the value of a volunteer hour has reached \$17.55 per hour. This is a tool that can be used to help organizations quantify the enormous value volunteers provide. This year's estimate increased from \$17.19 per hour in 2003.

Nationally INDEPENDENT SECTOR estimates in 2004 the total value of hours volunteered was equivalent to approximately \$272 billion of contributed service, assuming the total number of volunteer hours held constant from previous years.

"No number can adequately capture the true value volunteers bring to so many causes and communities across this country," said Diana Aviv, president and CEO of INDEPENDENT SECTOR. "Nevertheless, this yearly estimate helps us all focus on the enormous contribution of our nation's volunteer corps."

The hourly value of volunteer time is based on the average hourly wage for all non-management, nonagricultural workers as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with a 12 percent increase to estimate for fringe benefits.

INDEPENDENT SECTOR is a nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition of approximately 500 national organizations, foundations, and corporate philanthropy programs, collectively representing tens of thousands of charitable groups in every state across the nation. Its mission is to advance the common good by leading, strengthening, and mobilizing the independent sector.

For more information: Elizabeth Jenkins 202-467-6134 or Patricia Nash Christel 202-467-6132

FIRE CORPS TO HOLD SEMINAR AT NATIONAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DINNER

Fire Corps is pleased to announce that it will be holding a seminar at the 17th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner sponsored by the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) highlighting Fire Corps and the Citizen Corps partner program Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

The seminar will give a perspective of the mission of Citizen Corps, the goals, objectives, and an operational perspective of Fire Corps. It will also include an overview on CERT and ways that CERT can help the fire service during a disaster. For more information about the dinner and for a schedule of events, visit www.cfsi.org

TIPS TO PREVENT MOLD-RELATED HEALTH PROBLEMS

When water from a flood, sewage backup, or leaky pipes enters a home, it can create the right environment for mold, mildew, and bacteria growth, which can adversely affect the health of the home's inhabitants.

Mold is the common term used to describe a downy or furry growth on the surface or organic matter, cause by fungi, especially in the presence of dampness and decay. Mold is often used interchangeably with the word mildew. They are the generic terms that describe a variety of microorganisms, including fungi, algae, rusts, yeasts, and bacteria.

Mold spores thrive in continuously wet conditions and can start to grow within 24 hours after a flood. They can cause allergy symptoms, headaches, bronchitis, asthma attacks, lung irritation and skin rashes. People with asthma or other pulmonary illnesses, compromised immune systems, infants, and elderly are more likely to develop mold-related illnesses.

To remove mold: Clean hard surfaces with a solution of one cup of bleach to five gallons of water; make sure to ventilate the area when using chlorine bleach. Never mix household bleach with other

cleaning agents. Wear a filter mask and gloves to avoid contact with the mold. Let the bleach and water sit for 15 minutes and then dry the area thoroughly, using fans where possible.

The following precautions should be taken to minimize the likelihood of mold contamination:

- Flooded homes should be thoroughly dried out, a process that may take several days or weeks;
- Wet carpet and padding should be removed and discarded;
- Porous materials-those that absorb water-such as sheetrock, some paneling, fiberglass insulation, cellulose insulation, mattresses, pillows, wallpaper and upholstered furniture should be discarded;
- Sheetrock and other porous wallboards should be removed at least 12 inches above the visible water line left by the flood. Check for wicking, the upward movement of moisture to higher levels;
- Wall studs, where wallboard has been removed, should be cleaned with bleach/water mixture and allowed to dry completely;
- Floors, concrete or brick walls, countertops, plastic, glass and other non-porous materials should be washed with non-ammonia soap and water and then with a solution of one to two cups of bleach to a gallon of water and allowed to completely dry;
- Wear rubber gloves and eye protection when using bleach and make sure area is well ventilated. Don't mix bleach and ammonia. Consider using an N-95 rated dust mask if heavy concentrations of mold are already growing; Use a non-ammonia soap or detergent and hot water or a commercial cleaner. Thoroughly scrub all contaminated surfaces with the soap or detergent, using a stiff brush to clean masonry walls. It is best to use an excessive amount of cleaning solution. Rinse all objects with clear water.
- After cleaning, apply a disinfectant solution of household bleach to the surface, using one or two cups of bleach per gallon of water. The solution can be applied with a garden sprayer or wiped on with a sponge or rag. Be sure to wet the studs, wall cavities and floors thoroughly. Use a wet-dry vacuum to collect

extra bleach solution. Allow the solution to dry naturally for a six to eight-hour time period. It should not be removed or dried quickly because extended contact time is important

- Materials that cannot be effectively cleaned and dried should be placed in sealed plastic bags to prevent the spread of mold spores;
- People allergic to mold and people with asthma or other respiratory conditions should not do mold cleanup.
- Moldy rooms should be exhaust ventilated with large window box fans to dry out water absorbed into building surfaces.

RESOURCES:

CERT RESOURCE (Guide for programs)

http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/CERT/new_CERT/index.htm

Take The CERT CHALLENGE!

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/CERT/certchallenge/instruction.htm>

CERT Resources

http://www.michigan.gov/mcsc/0,1607,7-137-6116_23782-103091--,00.html

CERT: FAQ

<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/CERT/certfaq.asp>

Are You Ready?

www.ready.gov

FEMA Preparation and Prevention Virtual Library

<http://www.fema.gov/library/prepandprev.shtm>

Building A Disaster Resistant Neighborhood

<http://www.tallytown.com/redcross/drn.html>

CDC Emergency Training and Response

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training>

American Red Cross Community Disaster Materials

<http://www.redcross.org/pubs/dspubs/cde.html>

CITIZEN CORPS

www.citizencorps.gov

CERT

<http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/CERT>

Fire Corps

www.firecorps.org

MRC

www.medicalreservecorps.gov

Neighborhood Watch

<http://www.usaonwatch.org>

VIPS

www.volunteersinpoliceservice.org

For more information about Michigan Citizen Corps, contact the Program Director, Gary Zulinski at (517) 241-3867 or zulinskig@michigan.gov.

**WE ALL HAVE A ROLE
IN HOMETOWN SECURITY**

Citizen Corps asks you to embrace the personal responsibility to be prepared; to get training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety